BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2017-373-S - ORDER NO. 2018-136

MARCH 6, 2018

IN RE:	Petition of Crusader/Mountie, LLC for)	ORDER APPROVING
	Approval of the Sale and Transfer of its)	TRANSFER OF SEWER
	Sewer System Assets to Renewable Water)	ASSETS
	Resources)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") by way of a Petition of Crusader/Mountie, LLC ("Crusader") requesting approval of the transfer and sale of its sewer assets to Renewable Water Resources ("ReWa") pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-504, 103-541, and 103-825. Crusader filed its Petition with the Commission on December 15, 2017.

In its Petition, Crusader seeks the Commission's approval for the transfer of Crusader's wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system (the "Crusader System") to ReWa. Crusader states that it has executed an Agreement for the Transfer of Assets for the sale and transfer of the Crusader System. A copy of the Agreement was attached to Crusader's Petition as Exhibit A. ReWa's current financial statement was attached as Exhibit B.

Crusader mailed the Notice of Filing to each customer listed in Crusader's billing records on January 10, 2018, and to the County Administrator for Greenville County on January 4, 2018. Crusader further published its Notice of Filing in *The Greenville News* on January 5, 2018, pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817(C)(3)(a). No

intervention from any entity was filed, and no objection to the Petition has been made. As required by 10 S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-504, Crusader has given notice of this Petition to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and other interested wastewater utilities.

BACKGROUND

Crusader is a single member limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of South Carolina and a public utility within the meaning of S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(4). Crusader's sole member is the North Greenville University. Crusader is certificated as a public utility by the Public Service Commission.

Included in Crusader's authorized service area is the Greenville campus of North Greenville University as well as certain customers in the area surrounding the campus and in the Cherokee Valley community. The Crusader System serves approximately 131 customer accounts. Crusader acquired its sewer system in 2014 from United Utility Companies, Inc., the transfer of which was approved on May 27, 2014, in Commission Order No. 2014-437, Docket No. 2014-102-S. Crusader currently provides service pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Order No. 2014-437.

ReWa is a special purpose district and political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of South Carolina, which operates under the authorities granted by Act No. 362 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, 1925, as amended, such amendments to include, without limitation, Act No. 195 of 1999 and Act No. 298 of 2016. ReWa operates an extensive sewer system and service in Greenville County, South Carolina. ReWa is an experienced, professional and financially well-

capitalized utility operator that is fully capable of providing reliable and efficient service to customers in the Crusader territory.

In adopting Act No. 298 of 2016, the South Carolina General Assembly expanded ReWa's authorized service boundaries to encompass the North Greenville area of Greenville County, which includes the Crusader service territory. ReWa has indicated that it intends over time to expand its system and service in the North Greenville County area and to consolidate Crusader's System into this expanded system.

On May 31, 2017, Crusader and ReWa adopted the Agreement for the Transfer of Assets that was attached to the Petition, authorizing transfer of the Crusader System to ReWa for the sum of \$1.00, subject to approval of the transfer by this Commission. ReWa intends to charge customers for wastewater services at the current Crusader rates. Rates will only be changed if and when the ReWa Board approves an adjustment in the future.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-501(3), the Commission may waive a hearing on this matter. As stated, Crusader notified customers both through mailings and through publication. It also notified the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and other interested wastewater utilities. No intervention or objection to the Petition has been filed. Therefore, waiver of a hearing on this matter is appropriate, especially considering that no adjustment of rates is proposed. The Commission finds that a waiver of the hearing requirement in the present matter is in the public interest.

The Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") has reviewed this matter and by letter dated

February 21, 2018, recommends the Commission approve the requested transfer.

Based upon the Commission's consideration of the Petition, the Commission

concludes that the requested transfer is in the public interest, and that public convenience

and necessity will be furthered by the transfer.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Petition of Crusader requesting approval of the transfer of the Crusader

System is approved.

2. Crusader will notify the Commission upon completion of the transaction, at

which time Crusader shall be released from all obligations under prior Commission orders.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the

Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Swain E. Whitfield, Chairman

Swain E. Whitfield

ATTEST:

Comer H. Randall, Vice Chairman

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